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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.
Bureau of Agricultural Economics.
Tobacco Section.
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TOBACCO STOCKS REPORT OF JANUARY 1, 1930, SHOWS STOCKS BY GROUPS OF GRADES.

Today's report of leaf tobacco in the hands of dealers and manufacturers on January 1, issued by the Tobacco Section of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is notable in that for the first time it makes available detailed figures for each type by groups of grades. This was an important feature of the Tobacco Stocks and Standards Act, approved January 14, 1929, by the terms of which the quarterly tobacco stocks reports were transferred to the Department of Agriculture. During 1929, preparations were made for gathering the reports on the new basis. Conferences were held in Washington, attended by prominent representatives of the tobacco trade, and considerable time was spent by a representative of the Tobacco Section visiting important tobacco trading and industrial areas, explaining the basis of reporting, and simplifying the schedule wherever possible.

The result of these careful preparations has been a remarkable spirit of cooperation on the part of dealers and manufacturers in making the report a success. In spite of the greatly increased detail in which they were required to report their stocks, and consequent increase in the work of examining and compiling the returns, less time was required for making this report available for distribution than for any previous report issued by the Department of Agriculture.

The Department officials believe that the detailed analysis of stocks afforded by today's report will be of great interest to the trade and to others interested in tobacco statistics. The maximum value of such analyses will not be reached, however, until a sufficient number of such reports has been issued to afford a basis of comparison by which excess or deficiency of stocks in given groups of grades may be shown.

SUMMARY OF REPORT.

Stocks of leaf tobacco in the hands of dealers and manufacturers on January 1, 1930, totaled 1,680,290,000 pounds, 75,118,000 pounds lower than the stocks on January 1, 1929. Types which show lower stocks than last year are Virginia fire-cured, all Kentucky and Tennessee fire-cured, Burley, Southern Maryland, One-sucker, Green River, all cigar filler types, Connecticut Valley binder types, and Georgia and Florida shade grown. Increased holdings compared with January 1, 1929, are shown in flue-cured, Wisconsin binders, and Connecticut Valley shade grown.

Stocks of flue-cured tobacco on January 1 were 774,927,000 pounds compared with 766,370,000 pounds a year previously, and 669,070,000 pounds on October 1 last.

Virginia fire-cured shows the smallest stocks but one on record for the first quarter, 32,157,000 pounds compared with 47,633,000 pounds on January 1, 1929, and 57,000,000 pounds January 1, 1928. Under the combined influence of low stocks and the excellent quality of the 1929 crop, growers of this type are receiving the best prices in several years.

Kentucky and Tennessee fire-cured, comprising Types 22 and 23, are reported at a total of 94,281,000 pounds, the lowest ever reported for January 1. This figure compares with 105,902,000 pounds for January 1, 1929, and 150,328,000 pounds in 1928. Due to December marketing of the 1929 crop, Type 23, Paducah and Mayfield, shows a slight increase over October 1 stocks, while Type 22, Clarksville and Hopkinsville, shows a sharp decrease.

Henderson Stemming, stocks of which had been practically wiped out when the marketing season opened in December, shows stocks of 2,011,000 pounds compared with 3,446,000 pounds one year previously, and 7,694,000 pounds two years previously.

Stocks of Burley tobacco amount to 351,270,000 pounds. January 1 stocks of this type have shown a steady decline from 469,811,000 pounds in 1927 to those just given for 1930.

Of Maryland tobacco only 14,429,000 pounds remained on hand January 1, compared with 20,245,000 pounds the previous year.

Among the dark air-cured types, One-sucker stocks amount to 27,714,000 pounds
d with 28,067,000 pounds a year ago. Green River, shows 28,808,000 pounds
d with 41,122,000 a year ago, while Virginia sun-cured stocks have increased
y, 4,902,000 pounds this January 1 compared with 4,422,000 pounds a year ago.

Quite noticeable declines are shown in the cigar filler types, totals for this class being 119,025,000 pounds on January 1, 1930, compared with 133,522,000 pounds a year ago, the larger part of the decrease being in Ohio types.

Stocks of all binder types total 131,110,000 pounds, an increase of half a million pounds compared with January 1, 1929. Connecticut Valley Broadleaf declined about one million pounds during the period, and Havana Seed about six million pounds. Wisconsin binder types increased from 62,359,000 pounds a year ago to 69,849,000 pounds on January 1 of this year.

Stocks of Shade-grown wrapper tobacco on January 1 amounted to 15,295,000 pounds compared with 14,716,000 pounds a year ago.

Stocks of foreign-grown tobacco decreased from 102,926,000 pounds a year ago to 82,777,000 pounds on January 1, 1930. Stocks on the latter date were approximately one-eighth cigar leaf and seven-eighth other than cigar leaf.